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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/875,032	06/07/2001	Alan H. Gnauck	3493.00174 (IDS 2000-0561)	6060
28317	7590	12/02/2004	EXAMINER PHAN, HANH	
BANNER & WITCOFF LTD., ATTORNEYS FOR AT & T CORP 1001 G STREET, N.W. ELEVENTH STREET WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4597			ART UNIT 2633	
DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/875,032

Applicant(s)

GNAUCK ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh Phan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 June 2001.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responsive to the Amendment filed on 07/06/2004.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

-In the abstract section, the form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. For example, in the abstract, the phrases such as "said data signal", "said encoded data signal", "said fiber", "means for encoding a data signal", "means for transmitting", "means for receiving" and "means for decoding said encoded data signal" should be avoided.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 30 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kartalopoulos (US Patent No. 6,580,538).

Regarding claims 1, 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 19, 21, 25, 27, 29, 30 and 31, referring to figures 3 and 5, Kartalopoulos teaches a method for increasing transmission distance of a fiber optical communications link using tedons comprising the steps:

encoding (i.e., encoder 521, Fig. 5) a data signal to be transmitted using an encoding scheme that reduces a number of ones disproportionately relative to a number of zeros in the data signal (see Figures 3 and 5, col. 3, lines 39-64, col. 6, lines 30-39); and

transmitting (i.e., E/O converter 525 and WDM MUX 530, Fig. 5) the encoded data signal over the fiber optical communications link (i.e., fiber link 550, Fig. 5)(see col. 8, lines 31-67 and col. 9, lines 1-65).

Regarding claims 3, 9, 17 and 23, referring to figures 3 and 5, Kartalopoulos teaches a method for increasing transmission distance of a fiber optical communications link using tedons comprising the steps:

receiving an encoded data signal wherein the encoded data signal was encoded by a transmitter using an encoding scheme that reduced a number of ones

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disproportionally relative to a number of zeros in a data signal (see col. 9, lines 60-65);
and

decoding the encoded data signal (see col. 9, lines 62-65).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kartalopoulos (US Patent No. 6,580,538) in view of Fukui (US Patent No. 6,442,200).

Regarding claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 Kartalopoulos differs from claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 in that he does not specifically teach the encoding scheme is pulse position modulation. However, Fukui teaches the encoding scheme is pulse position modulation (Figures 1, 5, 9A and 9B, col. 1, lines 35-53 and col. 2, lines 35-44). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the encoding scheme is pulse position modulation as taught by Fukui in the system of Kartalopoulos. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this since Fukui suggests in column 1, lines 35-53 and col. 2, lines 35-44 that using such the

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encoding scheme is pulse position modulation have advantage of allowing reducing the nonlinear impairments in optical transmission systems.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

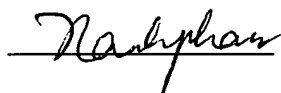
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh Phan whose telephone number is (571)272-3035.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Chan, can be reached on (571)272-3022. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-4700.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Hanh Phan', is written over a horizontal line.

Hanh Phan

Primary Examiner

11/26/2004